

April 9, 1861.—Dr. J. E. Gray, F.R.S., V.P., in the Chair.

ON A NEW SPECIES OF THE FAMILY BOIDÆ.

By DR. ALBERT GÜNTHER.

PELOPHILUS FORDII.

Head rather narrow; neck slender; body thick, compressed; tail conical, tapering, prehensile. The anterior part of the head is covered with regular shields, symmetrically arranged; the posterior part from the orbits is scaly. There are four pairs of frontal shields, two small shields being intercalated between the posterior pair; then follows a large square vertical shield, the largest of all the shields of the head, situated between the superciliaries. The nasal opening is small, between three shields—namely between the two nasals and the anterior frontal. Three or four loreals, two anterior and five posterior oculars. Thirteen upper labials, the sixth, seventh, and eighth entering the orbit; none of them grooved. Pupil vertical, elliptical. Scales smooth, in twenty-eight series on the posterior part of the neck, and in thirty-three on the middle of the body. Ventral shields rather narrow, 253; anal 1; subcaudals entire 70.

The ground-colour is a reddish olive, more yellowish inferiorly; a reddish-brown streak from the nasal shield through the orbit to the angle of the mouth. A series of about eighty transverse reniform spots from the head to the end of the tail; each spot light reddish brown, edged with dark brown. Another series of similar but smaller and irregular spots along each side; belly nearly uniform.

Length of the head $\frac{2}{3}$ inch, of trunk 22 inches, of tail 4 inches.

This species comes from Western Africa, but I am not aware from what particular part. I have named it after Mr. Ford, whose merits in herpetology are well known by his truly artistical drawings.

ON A NEW SPECIES OF FISH OF THE GENUS GERRES.

By DR. A. GÜNTHER, FOR. MEMB.

GERRES LONGIROSTRIS, Rapp.

D. $\frac{9}{11}$. A. $\frac{3}{8}$.

The height of the body is one-half of the total length (without caudal). Præorbital and præoperculum not serrated. *Dorsal fin not notched*; the spines are moderately strong, the length of the second being four-sevenths of that of the head, or two-fifths of the depth of the body. The second and third anal spines are nearly of the same strength, and considerably shorter than those of the dorsal fin. Silvery, with darker stripes along the series of scales.

Hab. Cape of Good Hope.

This species is distinguished from all the others by the dorsal fin, which has the upper margin even, without any indication of a notch. It has been established by Professor W. von Rapp from specimens in the Museum of Tübingen.